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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, **DC** 20515 June 23, 2010 COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

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1050

Julius Genachowski Chairman Federal Communication Commission 445 Twelfth Street, NW Washington, DC 20554

Chairman Genachowski,

I write to express my support for the timely conclusion of your current review of the proposed Comcast/General Electric ("GE") joint venture regarding NBC Universal ("NBCU"). As a former investment and financial advisor I understand that this proposed venture should and is receiving a careful analysis at your Commission, but it must be clear that any further delay to this joint venture will hinder a critical and potential growth to the economic futures of these three vital American companies. Furthermore, I applaud the public commitments these companies have made to meet the needs of viewers and to ensure that the constituents of this country will receive important benefits from this joint venture. Specifically, Comcast and NBCU have made a strong commitment to minority diversity.

As a representative of a district with a diverse constituency, I am sensitive to the recent efforts made by Comcast and NBCU to create a more diverse programming schedule targeted towards minority based viewers. With a district consisting of a large Hispanic community, it is important that any joint venture provides my constituents, along with those of my colleagues, with a broad range of programming. To provide that diverse programming, Comcast and NBCU have committed to increase supplier diversity in the procurement of goods and services, as well as expand the range of On Demand options to include Spanish language programming. I am supportive of this commitment and believe that these two organizations will live up to these goals. Unfortunately, many of these commitments cannot be realized until after the joint venture is complete.

Furthermore, all parties involved share a greater responsibility in ensuring minorities are represented in the executive and decision making levels of business. Currently, Hispanics make up less than 5 percent of managers and executive directors and only 2 percent of Vice Presidents in Comcast. With that said, Comcast and NBCU has provided a detailed workforce recruitment and career development commitment plan to expand the role Hispanics play in their companies. However, like the expansion of a diverse programming selection and an increase in supplier diversity, minorities will not have the opportunity to move ahead in these two companies until the joint venture is complete.

I would like to conclude by saying the in-depth review by the Commission of this joint venture is critical. Nevertheless, I believe a timely conclusion is central to the economic futures of these companies and more so, to the diversification of this industry. I have every confidence that the FCC will conduct a serious and thoughtful review of this important transaction and structure a final order that will make binding these important commitments.

Sincerely,

Loretta Sanche

Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON

September 29, 2010

The Honorable Loretta Sanchez U.S. House of Representatives 1114 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Sanchez:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

I agree that the Commission's analysis of the proposed Comcast-GE transaction must be thorough, fair, and conducted in an expeditious manner. Staff studied carefully the Commission's past practices in reviewing proposed transactions in order to develop procedures that better achieve these objectives. As part of this effort, the Commission's *Public Notice* seeking comment on the applications required that all substantive issues be raised in the initial filings so that the parties would have the opportunity to address the issues as early as possible in the proceeding.

Please be assured that the issues discussed in your letter, including the potential benefits of a combined Comcast-NBC Universal to the American public, will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction. Our staff will continue to work diligently as it reviews the record compiled in the proceeding, including all petitions and comments received from the public. We also will continue to coordinate our efforts with those of the Department of Justice as we strive to have a comprehensive and timely review.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski